of Rs.2,70,45,796/- during the last financial year received from the Government of Maharashtra out of which a sum of Rs.2,59,85,246/- had been released under Marketing Incentive Component of DDHPY scheme. The Balance amount of Rs.10,60,550/- could not be considered because on the scrutiny of the claims in consonance with the governing guidelines on the subject, some of the primary handloom cooperative societies have computed sales figures for one year/two years only instead of three years which is required under the guidelines.

(c) Yes sir. In order to bailout the weavers from financial crisis and to meet the challenges of the liberalized global market, the Integrated Handloom Development Scheme (IHDS) has been formulated for implementation during the Eleventh Plan period by merging, with or without modifications of the essential components of the erstwhile Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY), Integrated Handloom Training Project (IHTP), Workshed-cum-housing Scheme and Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (IHCDS) implemented during the Tenth Plan. The objectives of the IHDS are to focus on formation of weavers group as a visible entity, develop the handloom Weavers Groups to become self-sustainable, an inclusive approach to cover weavers both within and outside the Co-operative fold; skill up-gradation of handloom weavers/workers to produce diversified products with improved quality to meet the market requirements; provide suitable workplace to weavers to enable them to produce quality products with improved productivity; holistic and flexible intervention to provide need based inputs specific to each cluster; market orientation by associating entrepreneurs and professionals for marketing, design and managing the production and to facilitate process of credit from financial institutions/banks. Besides, the committed liabilities of the erstwhile Schemes-Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY), Integrated Handloom Training Project (IHTP), Workshed-cum-housing Scheme and Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (IHCDS) would also be met out of the overall outlay of the Integrated Handloom Development Scheme.

Memorandum by weavers with regard to their problems

†2444. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that weavers working in powerloom and handloom industries have given a memorandum to Government with regard to their problems;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to solve their problems; and

(c) whether Government have taken any decision with regard to relief in taxes to weavers, cut in power tariff, loans at concessional rates, sale of handloom products through public distribution system and possibilities of export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes Sir. This Ministry has received memoranda/representations

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

from some of the weaver's organisations, from time to time, regarding general problems' of powerloom and handloom sectors.

(b) During Eleventh Five Year plan the Government of India has proposed the following schemes for implementation for benefit of weavers of hand looms and powerloom sector

HANDLOOM SECTOR

(i) Integrated Handloom Development Scheme,

(ii) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme,

(iii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme,

(iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme.

(v) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme,

POWERLOOM SECTOR

(i) Group Work Shed Scheme and Integrated Powerloom Cluster Development Scheme.

(ii) Group Insurance Scheme

(c) The Government of India has implemented 20%Credit linked Credit Scheme (CLCS) under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) especially to help the decentralised powerloom sector since 6.11.2003. The response of the industry is overwhelming. All state Governments have also already been requested to provide uninterrupted power supply on concessional rate to powerloom sector.

Handloom export zones in Tamil Nadu

2445. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up handloom export zones in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC), Chennai, has submitted a proposal to the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles to set up handloom export zones at Virudh Nagar handloom cluster in Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) The Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles has requested HEPC to re-cast the proposal as per the proposed guidelines of the Integrated Handloom Development Scheme for the Eleventh Plan. After receipt of the re-casted proposal the same will be examined.